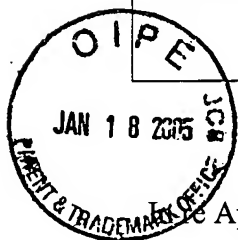


IFW

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Tammie B. McFarland  
Tammie B. McFarland

1-13-2005  
Date of Signature



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: )  
Melton et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/765,434 ) Art Unit: 2874  
Filed: January 27, 2004 ) Examiner: N/A  
Title: PRECONNECTORIZED FIBER OPTIC )  
DROP CABLES AND ASSEMBLIES )  
FOR EFFICIENT DEPLOYMENT )

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the filing date of the application, but, to the best of Applicants' knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

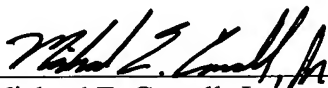
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

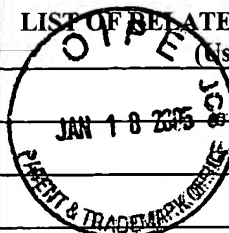
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-2167. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Patent Attorney  
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P.O. Box 489  
Hickory, N. C. 28603  
Telephone: 828/901-6725

Date: 1/13/05

<b>FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office</b>				<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>  HE0216		<b>Serial Number:</b>  10/765,434	
<b>LIST OF RELATED DOCUMENTS CITED BY APPLICANT</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)				<b>Applicant:</b> Melton et al.			
				<b>Filing Date:</b> January 27, 2004		<b>Group:</b> 2874	
<b>U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate	
	AA	6,678,448B2	1/13/04	Moisel et al.	385	101	11/8/02
	AB	6,668,127B1	12/23/03	Mahony	385	135	11/12/02
	AC	6,648,520B2	11/18/03	McDonald et al.	385	78	9/28/01
	AD	6,625,375B1	9/23/03	Mahony	385	135	10/29/02
	AE	6,614,980B1	9/2/03	Mahony	385	135	12/10/02
	AF	6,579,014B2	6/17/03	Melton et al.	385	76	9/28/01
	AG	6,546,175B1	4/8/03	Wagman et al.	385	113	5/26/00
	AH	6,542,674B1	4/1/03	Gimblet	385	113	8/25/00
	AI	6,539,147B1	3/25/03	Mahony	385	24	12/26/00
	AI	6,522,804B1	2/18/03	Mahony	385	24	12/26/00
	AK	6,496,641B1	12/17/02	Mahony	385	135	12/26/00
	AL	6,427,035B1	7/30/02	Mahony	385	15	8/12/99
	AM	6,264,374B1	7/24/01	Selfridge et al.	385	78	9/9/98
	AN	6,206,579B1	3/27/01	Sefridge et al.	385	60	10/29/98
	AO	RE37,028E	1/23/01	Cooke et al.	385	112	5/14/97
	AF	4,961,623	10/9/90	Midkiff et al.	350	96.20	9/8/89
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes   No	
	AQ						
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
	AR	Corning Cable Systems, "SST Figure-8 Drop Cables 1-12 Fibers"					
	AS	Corning Cable Systems, "SST-Drop (Dielectric) Cables 1-12 Fibers"					
	AT	Corning Cable Systems "SST-Drop (Armor) Cables 1-12 Fibers"					
	AU	INFOLITE Data Sheet					
	AV	STRATOS Lightwave™, Hybrid HMA Series, July 16, 2002					
<b>EXAMINER</b>						<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>	

\*EXAMINER Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.